AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions. and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended)   A cellular ~~Cellular~~ communication system, the system accommodating communication and controlling a configuration of radio links in a radio network comprising a network controller ~~(14)~~, mobile units ~~(100)~~ and base stations ~~(101)~~, the system being arranged for:

- maintaining, in the mobile unit and in the base station, a synchronization counter ~~(111,116)~~ indicating time codes for synchronization of functions across the system,

- transferring messages between the network controller, the base stations and the mobile units, the messages being transmitted at a transmission time code, the messages including

        - a change command for changing a configuration of radio links, and

        - a reconfiguration command for changing a current configuration state of the configuration of radio links to a next configuration state of the configuration of radio links at a selected future time code, which configuration change involves at least one mobile unit and at least one base station, ~~characterized in that the system is further arranged for~~

        - determining a prepared reconfiguration period ~~(67)~~, which period starts at the transmission time code of the reconfiguration command, and ends at the selected future time code, and

        adding a prepared reconfiguration period indicator ~~(66)~~ to the change command.

2.   (Currently Amended)   The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the synchronization counter ~~(111,116)~~ has a synchronization cycle indicated by a limited number of the time codes, and the change command comprises a reference time code for providing a reference time in the synchronization cycle, and the prepared

reconfiguration period indicator (66) is indicating that the reference time code is indicating the selected future time code.

3.   (Currently Amended)   The system as claimed in claim1 or 2, wherein the prepared reconfiguration period indicator (66) comprises the transmission time code of the reconfiguration command.

4.   (Currently Amended)   The system as claimed in claim1, 2 or 3, wherein the prepared reconfiguration period indicator (66) is selectively added to the change command in the event that a change command is to be transferred in the prepared reconfiguration period (67).

5.   (Currently Amended)   The system as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, wherein the prepared reconfiguration period indicator (66) is selectively added to the change command for a mobile unit or base station not involved in the configuration change when issuing the reconfiguration command.

6.   (Currently Amended)   The system as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3,4 or 5, wherein the change command is a link change command (62) for adding a radio link to the configuration.

7.   (Currently Amended)   The system as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3,4. 5 or 6, wherein the changing the current configuration state to the next configuration state comprises changing a compressed transmission mode (63) in a radio link.

8.   (Currently Amended)   A method Method of controlling a mobile unit or a base station in a the cellular communication system as claimed in any of the claims 1 to 7, the cellular communication system accommodating communication in a radio network comprising a network controller, mobile units and base stations, the method comprising

- maintaining a synchronization counter (111) indicating time codes for synchronization of functions across the system, and

    - transferring the messages between the mobile unit and the base stations, ~~characterized in that the method further comprises~~

    - detecting the prepared reconfiguration period indicator (66) from the change command,

    - and, in the event that <u>a</u> ~~the~~ future selected time code has not yet passed, ~~subsequently~~ at the future selected time code<u>,</u> setting the configuration according to the next configuration state.

    9.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 8, <u>further comprising</u> ~~wherein the method comprises~~, in the event that the future selected time code has not yet passed, executing the change command according to the current configuration state, and, in the event that the future selected time code has passed, executing the change command according to the next configuration state.

    10.   (Currently Amended)   <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ as claimed in claim 8 ~~or 9~~, wherein the synchronization counter (111) has a synchronization cycle indicated by a limited number of ~~the~~ time codes, ~~and~~ the change command comprises a reference time code for providing a passed reference time in the synchronization cycle, and

    the prepared reconfiguration period indicator (66) is indicating that the reference time code is indicating the selected future time code, ~~and~~ the method <u>further comprising</u> ~~comprises, for~~

    detecting whether a current time code has passed the future selected time code, and detecting whether the current time code is in a part of the synchronization cycle covered by the prepared reconfiguration period (67).

    11. - 13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Currently Amended)   A mobile unit for use in a cellular communication system, ~~as claimed in any of the claims 1 to 7~~ the mobile unit comprising

- a synchronization counter ~~(111)~~ indicating time codes for synchronization of functions across the system, and

- means ~~(110)~~ for transferring the messages between the mobile unit and the base stations,

~~characterized in that the mobile unit further comprising~~

reconfiguration means ~~(112)~~ for detecting the prepared reconfiguration period indicator ~~(66)~~ from the change command, and ~~for,~~ in the event that the future selected time code has not yet passed, ~~subsequently~~ at the future selected time code, for setting the configuration according to the next configuration state.

15.   (Currently Amended)   The mobile unit as claimed in claim 14, wherein the reconfiguration means ~~(112)~~ are arranged for, in the event that the future selected time code has not yet passed, executing the change command according to the current configuration state, and ~~for,~~ in the event that the future selected time code has passed, for executing the change command according to the next configuration state.

16.   (Currently Amended)   The mobile unit as claimed in claim 14 ~~or 15,~~ wherein the synchronization counter ~~(111)~~ has a synchronization cycle indicated by a limited number of the time codes, and the change command comprises a reference time code for providing a passed reference time in the synchronization cycle, and the prepared reconfiguration period indicator is indicating that the reference time code is indicating the selected future time code, and the reconfiguration means ~~(112)~~ are arranged for, in order to detect whether a current time code has passed the future selected time code, detecting whether the current time code is in a part of the synchronization cycle covered by the prepared reconfiguration period.

17.   (Currently Amended)   A device for controlling a base station in a cellular communication system ~~as claimed in any of the claims 1 to 7~~, the device comprising

- a synchronization counter ~~(116)~~ indicating time codes for synchronization of functions across the system, ~~and~~

- means ~~(114)~~ for transferring the messages between the base station and mobile units,

~~characterized in that the device further comprising~~

reconfiguration means ~~(115)~~ for detecting the prepared reconfiguration period indicator ~~(66)~~ from the change command, and,

in the event that the future selected time code has not yet passed, ~~subsequently~~ at the future selected time code, setting the configuration according to the next configuration state.

18.   (Currently Amended)   The device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the reconfiguration means ~~(115)~~ are arranged for, in the event that the future selected time code has not yet passed, executing the change command according to the current configuration state, and for, in the event that the future selected time code has passed, executing the change command according to the next configuration state.

19.   (Currently Amended)   The device as claimed in claim 17 ~~or 18~~, wherein the synchronization counter ~~(116)~~ has a synchronization cycle indicated by a limited number of the time codes, and the change command comprises a reference time code for providing a reference time in the synchronization cycle, and the prepared reconfiguration period indicator is indicating that the reference time code is indicating the selected future time code, and the reconfiguration means ~~(115)~~ are arranged for, in order to detect whether a current time code has passed the future selected time code, detecting whether the current time code is in a part of the synchronization cycle covered by the prepared reconfiguration period.

20.   (Canceled)